

Future societies and new economies joint workshop

Planning the implementation of the FEDUA-NENA MOU and establishing the proposed research hub

Date: 23 July 2019

Venue: Lambert Lounge – Shortland Building, Callaghan Campus

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Draft Program:

Participants (attending whole day):

NENA (new economy network Australia): Dr Michelle Maloney (Director of NENA), Ms. Meaghan Burkett (NENA Regional Hub convener),

Members and Associates of AFRN (alternative futures research network): Dr. S A Hamed Hosseini, A/Prof Sara Motta, Professor Duncan McDuie-Ra, A/Prof. Professor Simon Springer, Nancy Cushing (FEDUA Assistant Dean, Research), Dr James Juniper, Dr. Liam Phelan, Dr Sidsel Grimstad, Dr Michael Askew, A/Prof Kate Senior

Guest Speakers and participants: Ms. Jane Graham (Industry Program Coordinator), Professor Simon Springer (Director of the Centre for Urban and Regional Studies), Dr Bill Pasco (System Architect and Team Leader), Dr Michael Askew (ICBLU and Monash Sustainable Development Institute),

Apologies: A/Professor Nancy Cushing (FEDUA Assistant Dean, Research and AFRN PI), Ms. Catherine Oddie (FEDUA Research Development Manager). Dr Tamara Blakemore or Dr James Bennett, Dr Julie McIntyre (Lead CI of Wine Industry ARC Linkage), Mr. Michael Robertson

8.45 am– Tea and Coffee

9.15 am – Welcome and Introduction: Background and Purpose of the Workshop
S A Hamed Hosseini

9.30-11 am – Session 1. Identity Formation

Dr Michelle Maloney: Introducing NENA (background, vision, objectives and principals) and how NENA can benefit from Research (expectations and needs, experience, vision and strategies). 20 min

- with *Ms. Meaghan Burkett* and *Hamed Hosseini*): Reflections on and draw insights from *NENA's Newcastle/Hunter Regional Symposium* held on 13 July 2019 in Newcastle; → how to map and develop a good understanding of the way new economies and future societies are emerging and how the social/political/economic transitions at the regional and national levels

are happening; what roles progressive forces are playing and how all of these can be investigated. 10 min

Hamed and Michelle: MOU and its requirements 5 min

Hamed: Answers from Ms. Catherine Oddie (FEDUA Research Development Manager), to our questions regarding FEDUA's support for the Hub and its place in the Faculty; 5 min

Group Discussion: Brainstorming to identify the main Research Themes and Objectives and Guiding Research Questions for the Hub; Discuss and establish the Hub's general research agenda; Discuss the organizational structure and management of the Hub including deciding the name of the hub and defining roles and responsibilities (forming a *steering committee?*). 50 min.

11.00 -11.20 am: Morning Tea

11.20 am-12.50 pm -Session 2. Action Planning and Roadmapping

Short presentations about possible methodologies and integral conceptual frameworks that can be employed for our research projects:

Hamed Hosseini: Commonism as an integrative framework (*From Commoning the Alternatives to Commonism as an Alternative* <https://youtu.be/VdKV7-n7qE8>); More specific methods: Mapping, Data Science, and Social Network Analyses, Ethnography and Case Studies, etc.

Guest Commentator: *Dr Bill Pasco (Informatics and Computational Needs and Tools)*

Sara C. Motta: Decolonising Participatory Action Research Methodologies

James Juniper: GIS data and Ecological-Economic Modeling.

Simon Springer? Comments and Ideas?

Duncan McDuie-Ra? Comments and Ideas?

Facilitating the mapping and reflections by *Sara Motta* and *James Juniper*.

Group discussion: Discuss and agree on details (including exploring the most relevant/effective ways of articulating research project ideas, appropriate methodologies and conceptual frameworks) and outline a framework/platform for practical collaboration between the two parties.

12.50- 1.45 pm – Lunch- at Mamaduke's (nearby Café Shortland Building) –Table reserved for 15-20 people. (Apologies for the lack of funding: Feel free to order or bring your lunch)

1.45-3.15 pm – Session 3. Grant and Support Seeking Strategies

Guest speakers: *Ms. Jane Graham* (Industry Program Coordinator), *Dr Julie McIntyre* (Lead CI of Wine Industry ARC Linkage), on Linkage Schemes and UON support; Key Issues that we need to consider. Q&A.

Guest Speaker: *Dr Michael Askew:* potential collaborations with Monash Sustainable Development Center and/or ICBLU?

Guest Speaker: *Professor Simon Springer:* Potential collaborations with UON Centre for Urban and Regional Studies (CURS)? International grant schemes?

Group discussion: Discuss, strategize and plan for seeking alternative sources of funding (internal and external) including (but not limited to): 2020 FEDUA SNaPP Grant Scheme (due by mid Oct

2019, UON Linkage Support Scheme (2020, if available again?), ARC Linkage (to be submitted by mid 2020 for 2021-2023), 2020 ASSA workshop application (due by 4 Oct 2019) and possibly a joint CRC grant application (in collaboration with ...?) to help and cooperate with the linked/relevant industries involved in regional sustainable transitions projects (beyond Carbon, Capital, Commodification), etc.

3.15-3.30 pm – Afternoon Tea (coffee and Tea only)

3.30-4.300 pm – Session 4. Concluding session: 6. Outstanding issues to be discussed further; What next? Explore ideas for the possibly of co/organizing NENA’s Annual 2020 National Conference in Newcastle. (a portion of the conference costs can be requested through our 2020 FEDUA SNaPP grant to be submitted by Oct 2019)

6 pm –dinner at TBA

Appendix 1- Background information for participants

According to the MOU between FEDUA AFRN and NENA:

The parties commit to work together to seek the means and resources necessary to establish a Research Hub based at the University that aims to:

- a) create a ‘Knowledge Commons of Alternatives’ through exploring, mapping, comparing, examining and integrating alternative modes of livelihood, governance, and sociability that transcend capitalist relations and dependence on carbon, commodities, and (unsustainable) growth;
- b) identify, explore, develop and promote collaborative research projects focused on building new socio-ecological and economic systems or modalities in Australia;
- c) actively seek financial and in-kind supports required to implement the activities of collaboration including linkage/joint research projects;
- d) co-host events including research-oriented conferences, symposia and training workshops;
- e) coordinate and promote collaborative research and facilitate its publication to ensure that the Research Hub contributes to the development of the knowledge commons, supports social projects, and informs actions that transform Australian society;
and
- f) create an open and collaborative platform for mutual learning and sharing experiences amongst the academics and practitioners involved in the projects.

Appendix 2 - First step by NENA

Summary of NENA-Newcastle Workshop & MapJam on 13 July 2019

A summary of the achievements/outcomes (report from NENA Newcastle Hub).

- On Saturday **13 July 2019 the NENA Newcastle, Hunter & Central Coast Hub** hosted its first regional hub event.
- The workshop focused on strengthening our local economy, supporting community and country.
- There were **12 inspiring and informative presentations**, and a number of informal presentations from both local and interstate new economy champions.

- **55 people** from across Newcastle, Hunter and the Central Coast participated in the workshop creating new networks and building understanding of current and potential new economy ideas and practices.
- Topics covered included: NENA and building an economy for people and planet, Firesticks Alliance and fire in the role of reciprocity, global lessons for the hunter transition and the Hunter Bio-valley project, local, sustainable and more equitable food and farming initiatives, co-operatives, socially equitable housing and social justice, the re-use and repair economy, transitional to a post-coal economy, community based carbon off-sets, research to support community in the new economy, modern monetary theory and job guarantees.
- In addition to the groups represented on the day, the participants identified another 37 groups operating in the new economy space that we invite to the network.
- Suggestions for what people would like to see the hub do in the future included:
 - More networking events
 - Opportunities to interact with other regional hubs and sectoral hubs
 - Building knowledge and capability
 - Idea bombing Newcastle
 - Public lecture series
 - Maintain and build NENA members with economic expertise to identify, assess and champion good projects
- At least six people (that we know of) have already connected since Saturday and we anticipate there'll be many more connections to come.

Appendix 3 - General Plan for the Joint Workshop

FEDUA's Alternative Futures Research Network (AFRN), together with its community partner NENA (New Economy Network Australia cooperative), aims to organize a one-day workshop, bringing the academic members of the network and NENA's director (Dr Michelle Maloney) together, to take the very first step in executing the MOU signed between the two parties.

The workshop will include the following activities necessary for the implementation of the MOU's listed objectives, i.e. establishing a "*Research Hub based at the University with the purpose of developing and conducting joint research projects ...*":

1. Identify the main research themes of the Hub, according to NENA's immediate and longer term needs and interests, as our potential end-user/partner-organization, as well as the research interest of the AFRN;
2. Discuss and establish the Hub's general research agenda; discuss and agree on details (including exploring the most effective ways of articulating research project ideas, appropriate methodologies and conceptual frameworks) and outline a framework/platform for practical collaboration between the two parties.
3. Discuss the organizational management of the Hub including deciding the name of the hub and defining roles and responsibilities.
4. Discuss, strategize and plan for seeking alternative sources of funding (internal and external) including (but not limited to): 2020 FEDUA SNAP Grant Scheme, UON Linkage Support Scheme (2020, if available again), ARC Linkage (to be submitted in 2020 for 2021-2023), and possibly a joint CRC grant application (in collaboration with ICBLU) to help and cooperate with the linked/relevant industries involved in regional sustainable transitions projects (beyond Carbon, Capital, Commodification), etc.

5. Reflect on and draw insight from *NENA's Newcastle/Hunter Regional Symposium* held on 13 July 2019 in Newcastle – Charlestown Library (co-founded by NENA and some members of AFRN) in order to map regional networks and connect with potential regional stakeholders/partners from the community, public/private and grassroots civil society sectors.
6. Explore ideas for possibly co/organizing NENA's Annual 2020 National Conference in Newcastle. (a portion of the conference costs can be requested through our 2020 FEDUA SNAP grant to be submitted by Oct 2019)

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